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The University of Dayton

News Release

DIRECTORS CHOSEN FOR NEW DAYTON YOUTH FESTIVAL CHOIR

DAYTON, Ohio, Sept. 12, 1989--A new choir for high school students, the Dayton Youth Festival Choir, has been established this fall by the Dayton Bach Society. Co-directors of the choir will be Richard Benedum, professor of music at the University of Dayton and conductor of the Bach Society, and Basil Fett, choral director at Wayne High School.

High school choir directors, teachers and private voice teachers in the greater Dayton area will be asked to recommend students for the new choir. No further audition will be necessary. The first rehearsal will be held on Tuesday, Oct. 3 at 7 p.m. at UD's Music and Theatre Building.

Last year four music students at Colonel White High School were invited to join the Bach Society for rehearsals and a performance, and their enthusiastic response prompted the Bach Society to form the new choir. The group's first appearance will be at UD on Nov. 11 for a Bach Society choral clinic for school and church directors. Guest clinician will be John Leman, a member of the conducting faculty at the University of Cincinnati College--Conservatory of Music.

Co-director Fett has been choral director at Wayne High School for eight years. He holds a bachelor's degree from Miami University and a master's degree in choral conducting performance from Bowling Green State University. He is section leader in Dayton's Westminster Presbyterian Church choir, and teaches voice part-time at Wittenberg University.

The new choir was formed with the support of the Dayton Foundation and the Tait Foundation. Teachers or students who would like more information about the Dayton Youth Festival Choir may call Richard Benedum at (513) 229-3936; Basil Fett at (513) 233-6431; or Diane Gentner, general manager of the Bach Society, at (513) 245-4303.